

03 7. (Twice Amended) A data editing method for encoding a plurality of images or sounds and multiplexing the plural encoded data so as to produce recording data which is recorded in a recording medium, said data editing method comprising the steps of:

respectively encoding a plurality of inputted images or sounds and respectively storing the encoded data in different recording areas of a single storage unit control of said single storage unit residing in a system controller and

reading said encoded data from said different recording areas of said single storage unit to be multiplexed so as to produce the multiplexed data, and storing the multiplexed data, and storing the multiplexed data as said recording data in an additional recording area of said single storage unit also under the control of said system controller which is different from said recording areas of said single storage unit storing said encoded data.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend Figs. 1, 4 and 6 as set forth in the accompanying Request for Approval of Drawings Changes.

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is intended to comprise the second preliminary amendment is intended a complete response to the final Office Action of June 6, 2000 issued in parent application serial no. 08/935,207.

At paragraph 2 of the Office Action in the parent application, the examiner as objected to claim 7, requesting that "recording are" be changed to --recording area--. Applicant has done so.

At paragraph 4 of the Office Action in the parent application, the examiner has rejected to claims 1 -6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicant has

extensively amended claims 1-6 and therefore requested that the objection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be withdrawn.

At paragraph 6 of the outstanding office Action, the examiner has rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (a) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art in Fig. 1. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants wish to withdraw the statement of Fig. 1 as admitted prior art. Applicant's representative was incorrect in adding the prior art legend to this figure. Indeed, the description of this figure is disclosed in the Detailed Description of the Embodiment starting on page 5, and does not comprise prior art. Applicants submit concurrently herewith a request for approval of drawing changes removing this prior art legend that was previously added to the figure.

Upon the removal of Fig. 1 as admitted prior art, applicants request that the rejection of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art of fig. 1 be withdrawn.

At paragraph 7 of the Office Action in the parent application the examiner has rejected claims 1-5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Katayma, et al. (35 U.S. Patent 05,992,115). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants have amended claims 1-5 and 7 and as such submit that the now claimed editing system comprises a system controller overseeing the operation of a single storage unit for receiving data from a plurality of encoding devices. The single storage unit is a system controller intended to be located in a single location, while the plurality of encoding devices are present in a plurality of locations. As shown in Katayma at Fig. 66, and the accompanying description thereof at column 39, lines 25-37 more than one storage means having more than one controller is provided. Indeed, the examiner indicates that storage means 210, 211 and 212 are provided, each storing a separate video, audio or subpicture. Thus, the claimed single storage

unit for recording all of the encoding data, and all being controlled by a single system controller, is not shown in Katayma.

Indeed, in Katayma, data is stored in a storage medium separate and apart from the physical structure of the storage medium for the video, audio and subpicture apparatus, thus requiring a different additional controller. However, the claimed invention specifically requires that the multiplexed recorded data be stored in a single storage unit with a single system controller for a plurality of encoding devices. The limitations set forth in independent claims 1 and 7 noted above are not depicted in the Katayma, et al. reference. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn.

Additionally, claims 2-5 depend from independent claim 1, and are therefore allowable as depending from an allowable independent base claim. Additionally, each of these claims depicts an independently patentable patent in and of its own right. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claims 2-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

At paragraph 9 of the Office Action in the parent application the examiner rejected 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Katayma, et al. in view of official notice. Because claim 6 depends from independent claim 1, noted above as being allowable, applicants submit that claim 6 is allowable as depending from an allowable independent base claim, and additionally as presenting an independently patentable combination in its own right. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Statements appearing above in respect to the disclosures and the cited references represent the present opinion of applicants' undersigned attorney and in the event examiner

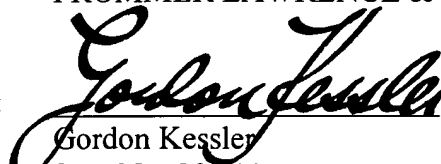
disagrees with any of such opinions, it is respectfully requested that the examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference providing a basis for a contrary view.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place claims 1-7 in condition for allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. If the examiner is unable to issue a notice of allowance regarding these claims, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney in order to discuss any further outstanding issues.

Early and favorable consideration are respectfully requested

Respectfully submitted,
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ATTACHMENT

Version With Markings Showing Changes Made

IN THE CLAIMS:

Applicants have requested amendment to claims 1-7, a copy of each of these claims being presented herein. A marked-up version of these claims indicating insertions and deletions is included as an attachment to this amendment.

1. (Twice Amended) An editing [apparatus] system for encoding a plurality of images or sounds and multiplexing plural encoded data so as to produce recording data which is recorded in a recording medium, said editing [apparatus] system comprising:

a system controller

a single storage [means] unit having a plurality of input ports and at least one output port[, control of said single storage means residing in a single control means];

a plurality of encoding [means] devices for encoding inputted images or sounds, and for successively storing encoded data in a [predetermined] recording area of said single storage [means] unit specified by said system controller through said input ports and for outputting the data amount of the encoded data for every predetermined unit to said system controller;

multiplexing [means] unit for reading said encoded data to be multiplexed from said storage means through said output port so as to produce the multiplexed data, and for storing the multiplexed data in a predetermined recording area of said storage means through one of said input ports as said recording data;

[wherein said controls means controls and allocations of the recording area of said storing means, wherein a different recording area is assigned to each of said plurality of encoding means for storing encoded data encoded thereby, the locations of said assigned different recording areas in which said encoded data has been stored are given to said multiplexing means, and a recording area which is different from that assigned to store said encoded data is assigned to said multiplexing means as an area where said multiplexed data is stored wherein said encoding, multiplexing, storing and reading may be performed without transferring data via another control means].

wherein when each said encoding unit receives an encode list from said system controller, each said encoding unit requires address information of a recording unit requires address information of a recording area of a single storage unit to said system controller, and thereby said system controller specifies the recording are for each said encoding unit and sends information of the specified recording area for each of said encoding units.

2. (Twice Amended) The editing [apparatus] system according to claim 1, wherein

said [control means] system controller outputs information necessary for encoding processing to each of said plurality of encoding [means] devices, so as to instruct the encoding [means] devices to start the encoding processing.

3. (Twice Amended) The editing [apparatus] system according to claim 1 wherein

said [control means] system controller gives each of said plurality of encoding [means] devices the address information of said recording area of said single storage unit for storing the

encoded data, when said encoding means devices requests an area where in said single storage unit the encoded data will be stored.

4. (Twice Amended) The editing [apparatus] system according to claim 1, wherein

when said [control means] system controller receives information that each of said plurality of encoding [means] devices has completed the encoding processing, the [control means] system controller gives said multiplexing [means] unit the address information of the recording area of said single storage unit in which said encoded data has been stored and the address information of said recording area of said single storage unit in which said multiplexed data is stored, so as to instruct the multiplexing [means] unit to start the multiplexing processing.

5. (Amended) The editing [apparatus] system according to claim 1, further comprising

[decoding means] a decoder for reading said multiplexed data from said single storage [means] unit through said at least one output [ports] port to decode said multiplexed data.

6. (Amended) The editing [apparatus] system according to claim 1, further comprising

a recording unit [recording means] for reading said multiplexed data from said single storage unit [means] through said at least one output [ports] port to record said multiplexed data in a predetermined recording medium as said recording data.

7. (Twice Amended) A data editing method for encoding a plurality of images or sounds and multiplexing the plural encoded data so as to produce recording data which is recorded in a recording medium, said data editing method comprising the steps of:

respectively encoding a plurality of inputted images or sounds and respectively storing the encoded data in different recording areas of a single storage [means] unit control of said single storage [means] unit residing in a [single control means] system controller and reading said encoded data from said different recording areas of said single storage [means] unit to be multiplexed so as to produce the multiplexed data, and storing the multiplexed data, and storing the multiplexed data as said recording data in an additional recording [are] area of said single storage [means] unit also under the control of said [single control means] system controller which is different from said recording areas of said single storage [means] unit storing said encoded data.